

# Plymouth Rock Center

DUXBURY CLIPPER

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1951

## Plymouth Rock Center Brings Opera "Rigoletto" To Duxbury

The Plymouth Rock Center of Music and Drama made a wise choice in giving Rigoletto for their first opera last week. This opera by Verdi is not only one of the most popular ones but has always been a favorite with our great singers. Patti loved it. Caruso, Ruffo, and Galli Curci made their first American appearances in it. Coloraturas, including Lily Pons have always enjoyed the lovely soprano arias.

### MOVIES AT LEGION HALL SATURDAY

A group of Official Navy Department films which have been obtained by Read-Admiral George H. Bahm, USN (Ret.) will be shown at Legion Hall this Saturday evening at 8 p. m. under the sponsorship of Duxbury Post, No. 223, A. L. Admission is free to Post members and their guests.

The next regular meeting of the Post will be held on Monday, July 23, at 8 p. m.

The curtain rose on a set that would have done justice to Joseph Urban, with its plastic effect achieved by sturdy columns, a simple gray background against which the colorful costumes were effectively set off. In fact, one striking costume, worn by Count Ceprano, almost stole the scene, black slashed with flaming red. The stage lighting effects were perfect, soft but emphatic.

The singing was a well coordinated cast, working harmoniously together. Any weakness on the parts of the singers was overcome by good acting. Of the major roles, Alan Beucher sang his difficult part well as Rigoletto, the Buffoon: His daughter, Gilda, left little to be desired as sung by Anne Preston (Friday night). Her voice was clear and true and she rose to her high B flat in the 1st act, 2nd scene, Caro Nome Aria, without hesitation. She had grace and beauty and was never out of character.

Rigoletto was at his best in

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### OPERA

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their lovely duet in the 2nd act and rose to great heights in the sad aria over the murdered Gilda at the end of the opera. Mr. McClosky's pleasing baritone was heard in the role of Count Monterone. The famous scene between the Duke, (Harold Learner), and Maddelena, (Joan Ivey), in the 3rd act was capably done by both. Mr. Lerner's voice is a trifle on the harsh side, but his interpretation of Caruso's familiar aria, La Donna E Mobile, was excellent. The quartet, Bella Figlia Dell 'Amore, in the last act brought quite an applause from the audience. The bass role of Sparafucile, (Roy Lazarus), was well sung. The orchestra played the storm music in this act convincingly.

The Plymouth Rock Center of Music and Drama can be proud of having done this famous Verdi opera so well.